

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBER ARRAIGNS TRIB AS PLAYER OF "BIG BUSINESS"

The Chicago Tribune, self-styled "The World's Greatest Newspaper" was arraigned as a player of the "Big Business" game by Wiley W. Mills, former member of the board of education. Mills pointed out as significant, that the morning daily made no mention of the fact that the city council finance committee had appropriated \$2,500 for an investigation of the bankruptcy of the school board.

"The big business game" was Mr. Mills' comment. "The Tribune is the recognized advertising medium for the most powerful State and La Salle st. interests.

"For obvious reasons, the Tribune does not want public opinion stirred to the point where the investigation of the school board deficit will reach a serious nature. If such should happen, it will probably be shown that all money the school board receives is expended wisely but that the schools do not get enough.

"When this fact is determined, the public will be anxious to know why the schools do not get their share of cash. Then the Tribune and the interests it protects will be hit.

"The Tribune Building, according to figures given out at the time it was built, is valued at \$1,800,000. This property at Madison and Dearborn sts., is assessed only on a \$300,000 valuation, just one-sixth of the value claimed for it.

"Figures have been prepared to show that the State Street interests are cheating the people out of taxes on \$90,000,000 worth of property along State st., from Lake to Van Buren streets.

"The Tribune easily has a far greater amount of State st. advertising than any of the other morning papers. Its income from department store advertising every year is enormous.

"Publicity, even though a majority of the city council sided with the big interests, would force an investigation of low assessments, and when some of the ridiculously low valuations on loop property were shown the board of assessors would be forced to tax them at a fair figure. The schools would then have money enough to run along without cutting the salary of the teachers or shutting up, as is now proposed."

Although the Herald and Examiner each printed over half a column on the proposed investigation and a story was handled by the City News Bureau, which furnished news to all of the morning papers, the Tribune was silent on the action taken by the council finance committee.

The inquiry was undertaken after thousands of teachers sat through a spirited talk by Wiley Mills at the Olympic theater Tuesday, in which he slammed the Trib for its "midnight leave" and the low rent it was paying on school property, resulting in a lower income for the school children.

"The Tribune has always been a tax dodger," declared Mills. "Perhaps that is why they are quiet about the investigation. Just 20 years ago the late Gov. Altgeld sent a special message to the legislature in which he said that although the Tribune Co. was paying dividends on a \$3,000,000 value, the 'World's Greatest Newspaper' paid only \$1.50 0taxes."

AMERICAN SUED FOR \$10,000

The Chicago American and the Illinois Publishing & Printing Co. were made defendants in a \$10,000 suit by Joseph Korzep, 16, of 1535 Haddon st.

According to the attorney for the boy, he was struck, knocked down and run over by an American truck on Sept. 23, 1914, while waiting for a car at Milwaukee av. and Cornell st,